

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 29 and continuing to page 6, line 2 as follows:

With reference to FIGURE 1, an existing screw vacuum pump comprises a vacuum pump 10 comprising a common pump chamber 12 having a first end 13, a second end 15, a third end 17, and a fourth end 19. The pump chamber 12 further comprises a central inlet port 14 located at the third end 17 of the chamber 12, through which gas from an enclosure (not shown) connectable to the inlet can be pumped to a pump high pressure exhaust port 16 located at the fourth end 19.

On page 8, please amend the paragraph spanning lines 16-27 as follows:

A preferred embodiment of the present invention comprises the shaft 140 having a raised relief male lobe or portion 142 and a female channel or portion 143 which is 180° opposite to the lobe 142 and is the negative profile of the lobe. Lobe 142 engages a correspondingly hollow female ~~[[or]]~~ channel or portion 152 in the second shaft 150. Shaft 150 also has a male lobe or portion 153 which is 180° opposite channel 152 and is the negative profile of the channel. The male lobe 142 and the corresponding female portion or channel 152 are shown to be V-shaped in FIGURE 3. The lobe 142 and channel 152 form a suction section 154. Channel 143 and lobe 153 also form a suction section opposite section 154.